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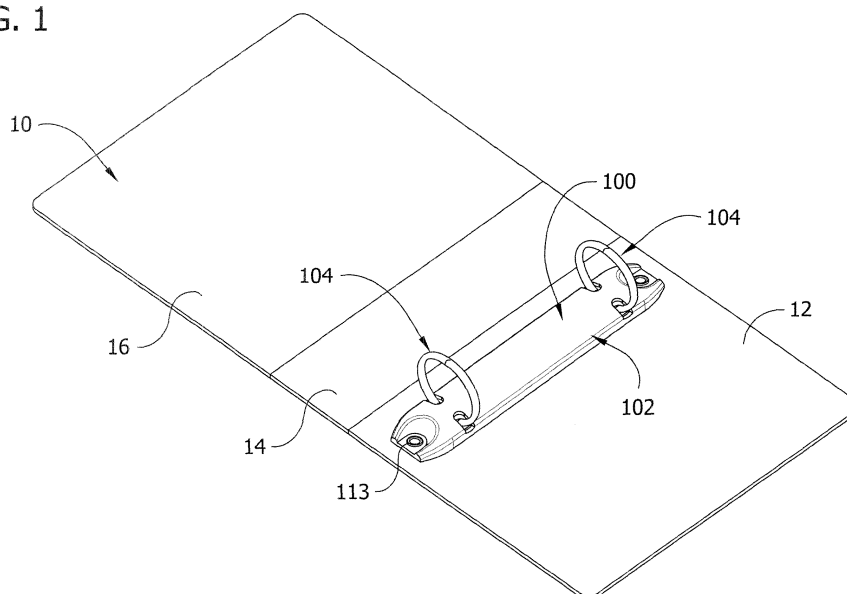
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(54) **Ring Binder Mechanism with Polymeric Housing**

(57) A ring binder mechanism (100) has a resilient polymeric housing (102). The housing (102) has a central portion (148) and lateral sides (150) extending downwardly along either side of the central portion. A metal ring support (128) is supported between the lateral sides for movement relative to the housing (102). Each of a plurality of rings (104) includes a first ring member mounted on the ring support for movement therewith to open

and close the rings. The housing (102) applies a spring force biasing the ring support (128) toward the open position when the first ring member is proximate its open position and biasing the ring support (128) to the closed position when the first ring member is proximate its closed position. The housing spring (102) force is the only spring force applied to the ring support (128) that moves the ring support (128).

FIG. 1



**PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT**

Application Number

under Rule 62a and/or 63 of the European Patent Convention.
This report shall be considered, for the purposes of
subsequent proceedings, as the European search report

EP 08 16 1689

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
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X	BE 824 649 A1 (BENSONS INTERNATIONAL SYSTEMS LIMITED) 15 May 1975 (1975-05-15) * claims 1-4; figure 4 *	1	
X	NL 7 016 914 A (RELIURE INDUSTRIELLE S.T.D.) 21 May 1971 (1971-05-21) * the whole document *	1,7	
X	EP 0 707 981 A1 (WORLD WIDE STATIONERY MFG CO [HK]) 24 April 1996 (1996-04-24) * column 2 *	1	
X	US 5 286 128 A (GILLUM STEVEN [US]) 15 February 1994 (1994-02-15) * column 2; figures 1,2 *	1-8	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			B42F
INCOMPLETE SEARCH			
<p>The Search Division considers that the present application, or one or more of its claims, does/do not comply with the EPC so that only a partial search (R.62a, 63) has been carried out.</p> <p>Claims searched completely :</p> <p>Claims searched incompletely :</p> <p>Claims not searched :</p> <p>Reason for the limitation of the search:</p> <p>see sheet C</p>			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague		5 July 2010	Curt, Denis
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (F04E07)



**INCOMPLETE SEARCH
SHEET C**

Application Number

EP 08 16 1689

Claim(s) completely searchable:
1-8

Claim(s) not searched:
9-15

Reason for the limitation of the search:
Rule 62(a)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 08 16 1689

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82